

TITLE 83: PUBLIC UTILITIES  
CHAPTER I: ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION  
SUBCHAPTER f: TELEPHONE UTILITIES

PART 7XX  
PROGRAM TO FOSTER THE ELIMINATION OF THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

Section  
7XX.10 Definitions  
EMERGENCY  
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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by Section 13-301.2 of the Public Utilities Act [220 ILCS 5/13-301.2].

SOURCE: Adopted at \_\_\_\_ Ill. Reg. \_\_\_\_\_, effective \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

Section 7XX.10 Definitions

When used in this Part, the listed terms will have the definitions given in this Section.

“Act” means the Public Utilities Act [220 ILCS 5].

“Commission” means the Illinois Commerce Commission.

“Customer” means any person, building owner, firm, partnership, corporation, municipality, cooperative, organization, governmental agency, etc., provided with local exchange carrier telecommunications services as defined in Section 13-204 of the Act [220 ILCS 5/13-204]. “Customer” may also be referred to as “end user.”

“Department” means the Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (“DCCA”).

“Program” means the Program to Foster the Elimination of the Digital Divide established pursuant to Section 13-301.2 of the Act [220 ILCS 5/13-301.2].

“Telecommunications carrier” or “carrier” means a telecommunications carrier as that term is defined in Section 13-202 of the Act [220 ILCS 5/13-202] that is providing local exchange telecommunications service as defined in Section 13-204 of the Act.

## Section 7XX.20 Dispute Procedures

Disputes arising under this Part shall be governed by 83 Ill. Adm. Code 735.190 and 735.200.

## Section 7XX.30 Service Requirement

- a) Each telecommunications carrier shall participate in the notification, collection, and remittance of the monthly voluntary contributions to support the Program.
- b) Within ~~10~~ 30 days after the effective date of this Section, each telecommunications carrier shall file with the Commission a tariff pursuant to Section 13-301.2 of the Act for the provision of the Program.
- c) All voluntary contributions received by a telecommunications carrier under Section 7XX.50 shall be forwarded to the Department for deposit into the Digital Divide Elimination Fund.

## Section 7XX.40 Contribution Solicitation and Program Publicity

All telecommunications carrier shall publicize the Program to encourage contributions.

- a) Annually, each telecommunications carrier shall notify its customers that they may elect to participate in the funding of the Program by electing to contribute, on a monthly basis, a fixed amount to be included in the monthly bills until cancelled by the customers.
- b) The customer notification specified in subsection (a) ~~(1)~~ of this Section shall be in the form of a paper or electronic insert or message in the customers bill. The document, as proposed by the Department, shall specify fixed monthly amounts from which customers wishing to contribute may choose. In addition, the document shall contain a telephone number, post card, mailing address or e-mail address, if available, that the customer may use to contact the telecommunications carrier in order to initiate monthly contribution billing.
- c) On an ongoing basis, the Department would advertise the program. ~~at least once each quarter, each telecommunications shall solicit Program contributions from its customers through bill inserts, brochures, news releases, web page(s), newspapers, radio, television, telecommunication carrier publications or other similar means.~~
- d) Telecommunication carrier's directory(s) ~~shall~~ may include an explanation of the Program as proposed by the Department.

- e) The telecommunication carrier shall inform customers that they may contribute to the Program in connection with all orders for new service installation ~~or transfer of service.~~

#### Section 7XX.50 Contributions

- a) Customers wishing to participate in the funding of the Program may do so by electing to contribute, on a monthly basis, a fixed amount to be included by the telecommunications carrier on the customer's monthly bill. This contribution shall not reduce the customer's total amount due for telecommunications services or other charges appearing on the bill.
- b) This contribution shall be a line item on the bill and identified as ~~the "Contribution to Eliminate the Digital Divide~~ Fund.
- c) ~~Residential customers~~ Customers may elect to contribute either \$.50, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00 ~~or \$15.00~~ or \$25.00 per month per line. ~~Business customers may elect to contribute \$1.00, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$25.00 or \$30.00 per month per line.~~
- d) Contributions shall be collected on a recurring basis each month from the customer's bill and remittance shall be reported and transferred to the Department as required by Section 7XX.60.
- e) Customers may elect to discontinue or change the amount of the monthly contribution on their bill at any time upon providing at least 30 days notice by telephone, mail, or e-mail, if available, to the telecommunications carrier.
- ~~f) One time or periodic contributions in excess of those amounts shown in subsection (c) above shall be made directly to the Department.~~
- ~~g~~f) Telecommunications carriers shall provide customers the ability and the opportunity to make the elections referred to in subsections (c), ~~(d)~~ and ~~(e)~~ (f) above on the bill inserts required by Section 7XX.40.
- ~~h~~g) Failure by the customer in any month to remit the entire billed amount ~~shall~~ may reduce the contribution accordingly.
- ~~h) One time or periodic contributions in excess of those amounts shown in subsection (c) above shall be made directly to the Department.~~
- i) There are no other funding requirements on any party or individual for the Program above and beyond those shown in this Section.

## Section 7XX.60 Telecommunications Carrier Remittance

- a) ~~Each telecommunications carrier with more than 35,000 access lines shall report and remit monthly to the Department.~~ Each telecommunications carrier ~~with 35,000 or fewer access lines~~ shall report and remit quarterly to the Department.
- b) The ~~monthly~~/quarterly telecommunications carrier reports to the Department shall include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - 1) Name, address, telephone number, ~~and~~ contact person, and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) for the reporting telecommunications carrier.
  - 2) The ~~monthly~~/quarterly amount collected.
  - ~~3) The total Program contributions billed, less adjustments for previous months Program contributions billed but not collected.~~
  - 34) The total number of customers making a contribution.